



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of: Field, et al.  
Serial-No.: 09/452,751  
Filing Date: December 1, 1999  
Group Art Unit: 2697  
Confirmation No.: 1710  
Examiner: Swickhamer, Christopher M.  
Title: *SYNCHRONOUS SWITCH AND METHOD FOR A  
TELECOMMUNICATIONS NODE*

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Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
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*Willie Jiles*  
Willie Jiles

Date: December 16, 2003

Dear Sir:

**RESPONSE PURSUANT TO 37 C.F.R. 1.111**

In response to the Office Action mailed September 16, 2003, Applicants respectfully request the Examiner to reconsider the rejection of the claims in view of the following amendments thereto, and the comments as set forth below. Please amend the application as follows: